

SPECIAL EDITION



The GW HATCHET

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Thursday, March 12, 1992

Musante voted in with 54%

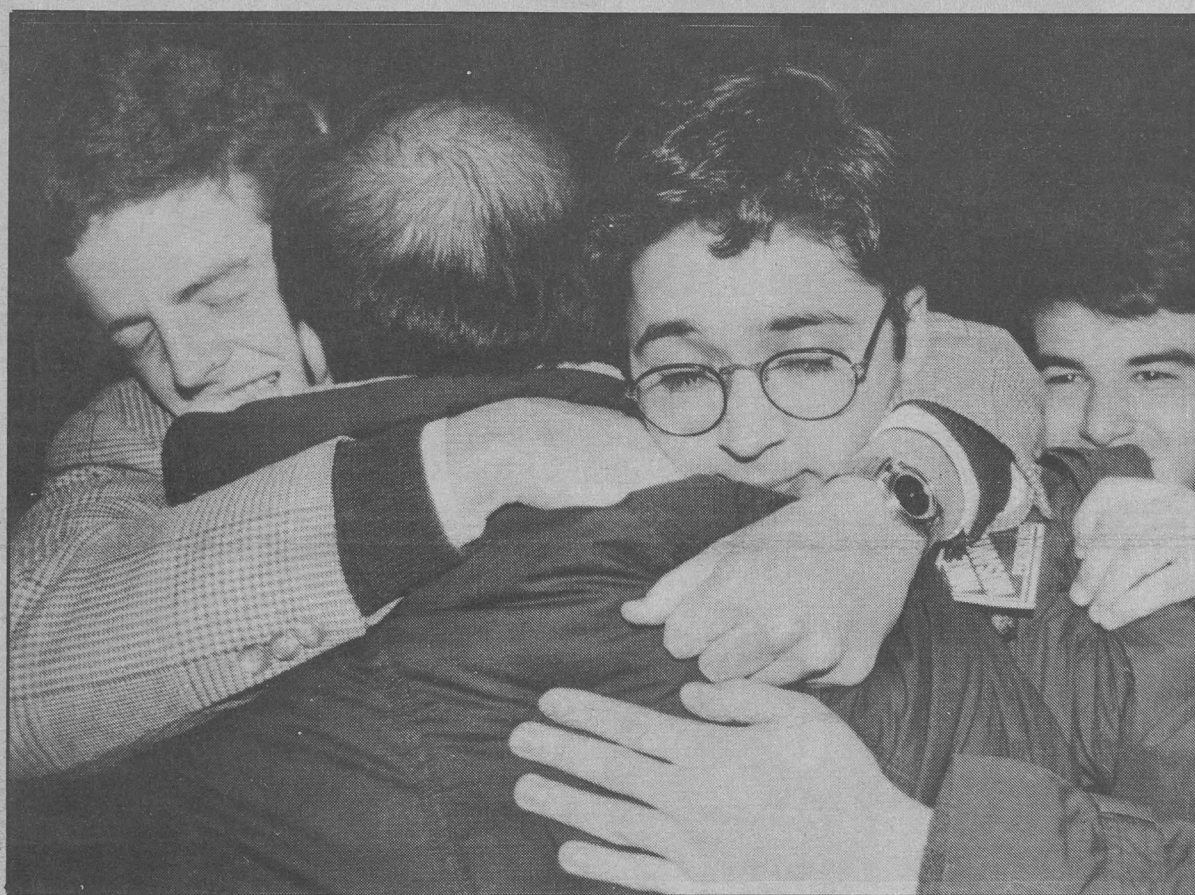


photo by Sloan Ginn

NEWLY ELECTED STUDENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT MIKE MUSANTE (in glasses) REJOICES with campaign supporters after results were announced Wednesday night in George's.

'None of the above' accounts for 14%

by Lisa Leiter
Asst. News Editor

Several hundred students showed their dissatisfaction with the two presidential runoff candidates by voting for "none of the above" at the polls March 10 and 11.

Of the 2,313 people who went to the polls, 331 students, or 14.3 percent of voter turnout, chose neither Mike Musante nor Will Griffin. JEC member Patrice Sonberg said the number is "a little higher than I thought it would be."

Sophomore Chuck Todd, who initiated and led the none of the above campaign, said he thought the protest vote would be 15 percent. "We didn't have the campaigners . . . we got our votes through the Hatchet and word of mouth," he said. Todd said he thought he "made his statement" even though these votes were not included in the JEC data.

He said he thinks the protest encouraged at least 600 people to vote, including both supporters and opposers of the movement. "(Without none of the above,) you only would have seen 1,400 or 1,500 at the polls."

Todd said he won before the campaign started because both candidates wanted to know more about reasons behind the movement. He said when Griffin and Musante reacted to the none of the above campaign at the debate March 9, they "gave the movement more legitimacy."

At a meeting March 9 to spread the word about none of the above, Todd said he garnered about 20 supporters who distri-

buted literature and buttons. The group made five posters and spent a total of \$35 on the campaign.

Todd said of Musante's victory, "I don't know if he has a grasp of what the students want . . . Because we got so many votes it will make his job that much harder. He has to earn our trust and respect."

Musante has asked Todd to meet with him after the election to discuss why Todd and his supporters are dissatisfied with the Student Association. Todd cited both a lack of openness and unity as two problems with the SA. "I'm willing to do anything to make the SA better," Todd added.

"I find it interesting that Musante didn't get the majority of students behind him," one junior who voted none of the above said.

John Opfer, president of GW's Objectivist Club, said he did not vote for SA president. He said he thinks the runoff should have consisted of the total number of candidates who made up 50 percent of the vote. "It's not fair that 50 percent of the student body's votes were excluded," he said.

"They (none of the above) got a little more than I expected. Even if their votes would have been included in the figures, it wouldn't have made a difference," JEC Chair Michael Donohue said, adding that he opposes a none of the above ticket in a runoff election.

Asked what he thought about placing a none of the above ticket on future SA election ballots, he said, "I don't know. It has its merits and its arguments."

154-vote margin puts candidate over the top

by Paul Connolly
Asst. News Editor

Sophomore Mike Musante edged out opponent Will Griffin by a 7.8 percent margin to win the Student Association presidential runoff election.

Musante won 53.9 percent of the 1,982 cast votes and Griffin took 46.1 percent. However, the Joint Elections Committee did not figure "none of the above" protest votes in the final percentage tabulations for Musante and Griffin. In all, there were 2,313 who went to the polling place, with 331 choosing none of the above, according to the JEC tabulations. Taking the protest votes into account, Musante received 46.2 percent, Griffin 39.5 percent and protest votes accounted for 14.3 percent of the total.

"It was a great race all the way to the end . . . a tougher election (than expected)," Musante said. "Team dedication is what got me here," Musante said of the results.

Musante said he challenges the eight candidates who lost to join his administration and make a difference on campus next year. "Let's get to work for the betterment of this campus," Musante said.

"This is an SA for all students . . . the fourth-floor infighting is over," Musante said. "Get all our ideas together and let's get moving."

Musante said he "took a long walk" before the final tallies were announced to prepare for the results, be it good news or bad for him. Following his victory, Musante immediately called home from a pay phone and told his parents the news.

He said the graduate schools' votes were important to him in last week's campaign. More than half of Musante's votes came from the National Law Center and the School of Medicine and Health Sciences in last week's election, and he obtained a crucial lead over Griffin in the same places again this week (see graphic on page 3 for listings of turnouts by locations).

Asked what he thought went wrong for him in the election, Griffin said it was "all pretty much related to the way the endorsements were done."

Griffin said he was running his campaign not as a politician but as a student pointing out what is fundamentally wrong. "I was running against the entire process of the way the University elections are held. When you point out what's wrong with a system, you are seen as negative and antagonistic," he said.

Griffin said the process is so flawed that 14,000 students did not think it was worth it to vote, and only 914 thought it was worthy to vote for him.

There were beneficial aspects to his campaign, however, he said. "One of the things I'm most proud of was my ability to mobilize the black constituency . . . it was a common objective . . . I'm looking to pursue that act in the Black Peoples' Union," he said. A member of the GW debate team, Griffin said he wants to try to win the national debate tournament this year now that his focus is drawn away from the presidency.

Griffin did not specify whether or not he was willing to work with the Musante administration next year, and said he felt he had an influence at the University before the election. When asked what he thought of Musante calling him a "hell of a guy," Griffin said, "I don't think he's a hell of a guy."

Jim Perschbach, the only eliminated presidential candidate present at last night's announcement of results, said he would consider Musante's offer to work with him next year. "I'll help him out as much as I can," he said.

JEC Chair Michael Donohue said the voter turnout for the runoff was good "in light of the fact (turnout) is a couple of hundred below last week."

Donohue and JEC member Patrice Sonberg said their committee will be making recommendations for next year's JEC because they were uninformed when they began setting up the elections this year. "Every year it's like reinventing the wheel," Donohue said, adding that the JEC may purchase a computer software voting system for next year.

Asst. News Editor Lisa Leiter contributed to this article.

● See related graph, p. 3

Farmbry order splits SA, advocate service

by Jen Batog
Assignment Editor

An executive order signed this week by SA President Kyle Farmbry will make the Student Advocate Service independent of the Student Association next year.

The reason for the move was to protect the legitimacy of the SAS and make sure its functions are not changed by future administration, SAS director Scott Watkins said. One of the SA presidential candidates said he planned on introducing sweeping reforms within the service, according to Watkins. "We don't want some president to play with us at their whim. It cripples our ability ... as an effective organization," he said.

Another reason for the split is the current state of the SA, Watkins said. The strength of the SAS depends on how well the University is willing to work with it, and by separating itself from the SA, Watkins said the administration will look upon the SAS more favorably. "I believe being away from the SA will allow us to be a more effective organization."

Ken Fails, next year's SAS director, said the move was not a revolt against the new SA president. It was done to maintain the integrity of the organiza-

tion and to protect it from the politics of the SA. "The SAS will be better served if we weren't part of the SA for the time being," he said.

The new executive order rescinds a previous one that stated that the SAS was a legitimate part of the SA. Watkins said the SAS may rejoin the Student Association if the SA reaffirms itself. However, he said the SAS may affiliate itself with other student organizations or the GW administration in the future. The SAS had received an unofficial offer to become an arm of the University earlier this year, but Watkins said no steps have been taken in that direction.

The secession will not affect the services or the goals of the organization, Watkins said. He added that the SAS office will remain in the Student Association office until after the transition. The permanent location of the SAS is "up in the air," he said.

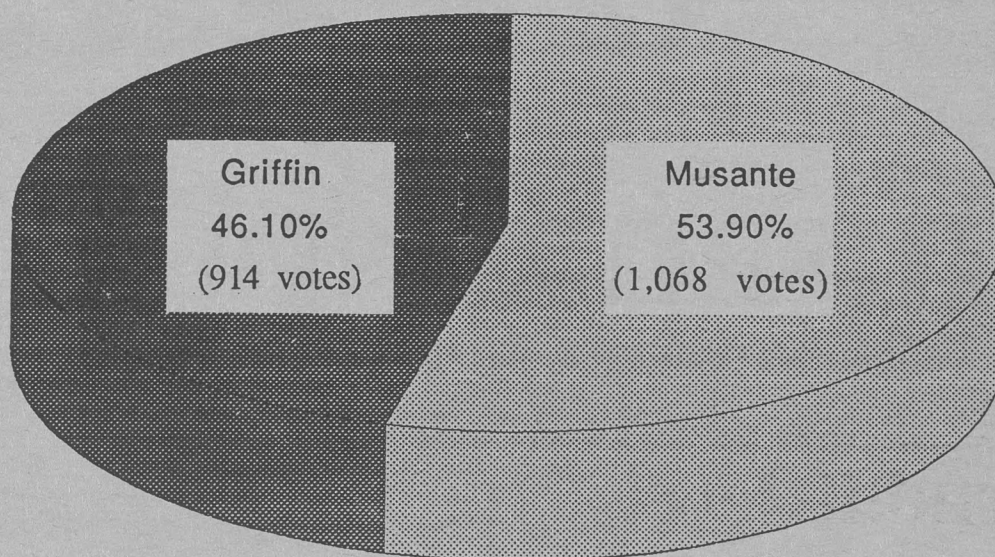
Farmbry said he understands the fear of the SAS members. "I think a lot of people in the SA don't have a whole lot of faith in the candidates and ... the Advocate Service may be the first of many (groups to leave SA)." Farmbry said he thinks it will be interesting to see what happens in the future, adding that he supports the Advocate Service's decision. "I am 100 percent inclined to follow their lead on this," he said.

Correction

In the March 9 story "U.S. primaries generate student comment, criticism," (p.7), the candidate College Republican board member Diane Grzyb said she supports was incorrectly listed. She favors Patrick Buchanan.

ELECTION '92

Runoff Election Results



This graph shows the percentage of votes Griffin and Musante obtained based on the 1,982 votes cast for president. Of the total 2,313 people who turned out to vote, 331 were protest "none of the above" votes. When those are taken into account, Musante received 46.2 percent of the total votes, Griffin 39.5 percent, and none of the above 14.3 percent.

G.W. PROGRAM BOARD PRESENTS

Senator

George McGovern

Friday March 13

Lisner Auditorium

10:00A.M.



ELECTION '92

Voter turnout by polling location

LOCATION	MUSANTE	GRIFFIN	TOTAL
Thurston	146	108	254
Marvin Center	334	421	755
Medical School	163	22	185
Law School	130	84	214
Hall Of Government	153	167	320
Funger	126	105	231
Verified Paper Ballots	16	7	23
Total Votes	1068	914	1982
Percent Of Votes	53.9%	46.1%	100%

Students choosing "none of the above"

Of the 2,313 students who went to the polls, 331 did not vote for either candidate.

Interested in earning \$7 an hour, gaining valuable experience, and helping your fellow students?

Why not become a peer tutor at the Writing Center?

Questions? Call 994-3765. Applications are available at the Writing Center, 301-H Stuart Hall.

Deadline for completed applications is Noon, Friday, March 13.

Turnout levels 'high' for runoff election

by Deborah Solomon

News Editor

Voter turnout decreased by only 145 votes in the SA presidential runoff, with a total of 2,313 people going to the polling place as compared to 2,458 who cast a ballot in the original election March 3-4.

The turnout was high for a runoff campaign, which usually garners a smaller percentage of votes, according to Joint Elections Committee Chair Michael Donohue.

SA President-elect Michael Musante received a total of 1,068 votes in the runoff and just 721 in the original ballot. Presidential candidate Will Griffin got 914 votes, 46.1 percent of the vote, compared to a previous 21.2 percent.

Turnout was highest in the Marvin Center, where 755 students voted, followed by the Hall of Government with 320 voters. A total of 770 students voted in the Marvin Center last time and 385 cast ballots in the Hall of Government the first time around.

Voting in the National Law Center decreased from 316 voters on March 3-4 to 214 on March 10-11. Medical School

turnout dropped by 50 voters from 235 in the original vote to 185 in the runoff. Musante received 88.1 percent of the Medical School vote in the runoff compared to 93 percent last week.

The last runoff for an SA position was in 1989, in the race for SA executive vice president. According to an article in The GW Hatchet, runoff votes dropped by 1,091. Sonberg said she was surprised voter turnout only decreased a small percent this year. "Turnout was unusually high. Considering the bad weather, it was unexpected. This runoff went smoothly. It was a relatively clean campaign with regard to violations," Sonberg said. "Both campaigns put in a lot of hard work."

Donohue agreed, saying, "Originally I had expected between 1,500 and 1,800 people. Then after walking around and seeing the polling places . . . I realized it was higher," Donohue said.

A protest vote for none of the above gained 14.3 percent, but cannot be compared to the March 4-5 election because the choice was not available then. Sonberg said she is not sure if the none of the above vote contributed to the high voter turnout in the runoff. "It's really hard to say. People were happy that they had the opportunity to make a statement by voting none of the above. It may have contributed to it, but you can't really tell," Sonberg said.

The total number of votes in the runoff compared with the 1991 election dropped by only 182 people.

The next issue of the GW Hatchet will be on Thursday, March 26.

The Advertising deadline for the issue is Monday, March 23.

Orders may be brought to Marvin Center 434 or faxed to (202) 994-6102

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SPORTS

URI, JMU no match for peaking tumblers

by Becky Heruth
Hatchet Sports Writer

The GW gymnastics team fell .05 of a point short of breaking the school record for a second consecutive meet, scoring a 190.6 during a demolition of James Madison (185.05) and Atlantic 10 Conference foe Rhode Island (184.85), Tuesday night at the Smith Center.

Sophomore Andria Longeretta highlighted the evening with a new all-around competition record. Her total of 38.5 broke her own mark of 38.35 set against Maryland, March 7. Senior Angela Sarno also added a school record with a 9.8 on the balance beam.

"I made a couple of mistakes on the floor and the beam, which brought me down," Longeretta said of her performance. "Everything else went as planned. I'm very happy."

The meet began shakily as the Colonial Women (20-1) started on the vault, a constant problem spot this season. GW tallied 46.3 points, 0.2 points behind JMU. Junior Kathy Goonan led with a 9.35, followed by Longeretta and freshman Jennifer Mabley, both of whom totalled a 9.3.

With the help of Longeretta's 9.8 and 9.6s from Bronner and freshman Nancy Akers, the Colonial Women amassed a 47.8 on the uneven bars and surged ahead by 1.45 points. JMU fell to third with a 45.45 on the balance beam and URI jumped into second place.

GW earned high scores aplenty on the beam with no one scoring below 9.5. Sarno led the team with her 9.8, while senior Nancy Plaskett and Longeretta tied for second, each with 9.75.

The Colonial Women were ahead 1.33 points before the final rotation, but then swept the floor exercise, garnering the top three scores. Bronner's 9.75 won, Longeretta took second with a 9.65 and Plaskett and Goonan tied for third with 9.55s each.

"I thought today was incredible," Longeretta said. "The atmosphere was great."

Vaults — GW next travels to the University of Florida, opposing the fifth-ranked Gators, 14th-ranked Louisiana State University and A-10 Conference opponent Massachusetts March 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Cagers face fierce A-10 foes

by Vince Tuss
Asst. Sports Editor

The GW women's basketball team set out to win the Atlantic 10 Conference Tournament this season, but the Colonial Women's regular season games against conference opponents showed that the tourney — this March 11-14 in Piscataway, N.J. — will not be a cakewalk.

GW enters post-season play at 21-6 overall and ranked 17th in the Associated Press' Top 25 Poll. But five of GW's losses came in the A-10, leaving the Colonial Women 11-5 in the conference and in a three-way tie for second; they were seeded fourth after tie-breakers. To toughen the task, GW has never won a game in Piscataway at Rutgers' home court.

The Colonial Women beat Thursday's opponent, St. Bonaventure, twice this season — 81-32 at the Smith Center and 74-65 in Olean, N.Y. If GW advances, they will likely face 11th-ranked West Virginia — who defeated the Colonial Women twice this season — in the second round.

Based on season-long trends, GW must accomplish three things to succeed in the tournament.

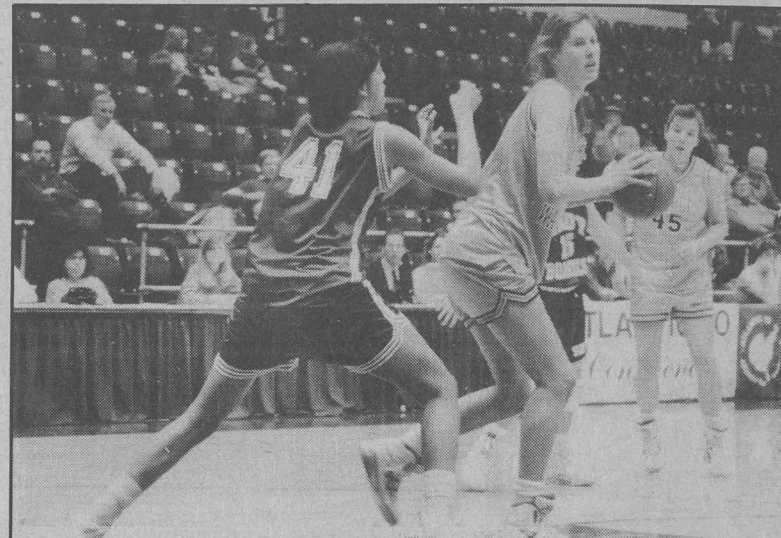


photo by Adam Sidel

The Colonial Women look forward to Lady Bonnies and the A-10 tournament Thursday.

First, the Colonial Women have to start their games strongly. In their last two games, they have ended the first half with a shooting percentage below 35 percent. Second-half comebacks will likely not be feasible in the tourney.

Second, GW's front line must fare well. Center Mary K. Nordling has led the Colonial Women in scoring since returning to the starting lineup. Forwards Darlene Saar and Kristin McArdle must add scoring and rebounding help.

Third, the bench, especially guard Maureen Dolphin and center Martha Williams, must contribute immediately

upon entering the game. If the reserves can naturally step in, GW's fast break and defensive press will work effectively.

As for the other favorites, guard Rosemary Kosiorek, forward Donna Abbott and center Lori Wilson are the key for 11th-ranked West Virginia (26-2 overall, 16-0 in the A-10).

The Lady Knights of Rutgers (18-9, 11-5) are a physical team led by guard Cheryl Cop, who directs the offense. They are also the home team.

Finally, there are the St. Joseph's Hawks (15-12, 11-5), led by guard Katie Curry, who overcame a so-called rebuilding year and beat GW twice.

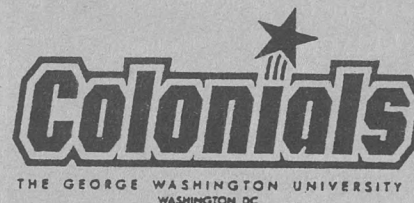
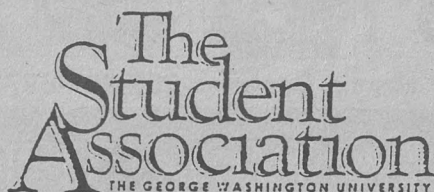
MIRIAM'S ALLNIGHTER

Miriam's Kitchen is a non-profit organization serving hot breakfast to approximately 250 men, women, and children each day at the Western Presbyterian Church at 1906 H Street, N.W. The majority of Volunteers at Miriam's Kitchen are GW students and church members. Miriam's Allnighter is truly a special event for the Department of Athletics & Recreation at The George Washington University. 15-member teams compete in overnight fun and zany games at the Smith Center with all proceeds going to Miriam's Kitchen! Only 40 teams are accepted so enter today! Entries are available at Rec Sports, Smith Center 128.

Entry Deadline.....March 25, 1992

Allnighter Date.....April 4, 1992

Entry Fee..... \$200.00 / Team



A Community Service Event by The Office of Campus Life - Division of Student and Academic Support Services